HOWARD COUNTY NEBRASKA

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION, AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

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HOWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION, AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

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LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

At June 30, 2003

Name	Title	Term <u>Expires</u>
Bill Sack James Watson Philip Bader Marvin Caspersen Gary Rasmussen	Board of Commissioners	Jan. 2007 Jan. 2007 Jan. 2007 Jan. 2005 Jan. 2005
Neal Dethlefs	Assessor	Jan. 2007
Karin Noakes	Attorney	Appointed
Marge Palmberg	Clerk Clerk of the District Court Election Commissioner Register of Deeds	Jan. 2007
Troy Kaiser	Sheriff	Jan. 2007
Connie Nickel	Treasurer	Jan. 2007
Donald Shuda	Veterans Service Officer	Appointed
Dan Fredrick	Weed Superintendent	Appointed
Ron Vonderohe	Planning and Zoning	Appointed

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

During our audit of Howard County, we noted certain matters involving the internal control structure and other operational matters, which are presented here. These comments and recommendations are intended to improve the internal control structure or result in operational efficiencies in the following areas:

County Overall

1. **Segregation of Duties:** One person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end.

County Board

- **2. Fund Balances:** The Inheritance Tax Fund incurred disbursements in excess of the budget and also had a negative year end budgeted fund balance. The County Building Fund had a \$58,530 negative actual fund balance as of June 30, 2003.
- 3. *Inventory Procedures:* There was no supporting documentation for the removal of an asset from the Sheriff's Office inventory and the Assessor's Office was not consistent with sound accounting practices regarding the recording of a fixed asset valuation.

County Sheriff

4. Balancing Procedures: The office lacked complete, documented balancing procedures for office financial activity.

More detailed information on the above items is provided hereafter. It should be noted this report is critical in nature since it contains only our comments and recommendations on the areas noted for improvement and does not include our observations on any strong features of the County.

Draft copies of this report were furnished to the various county officials to provide them an opportunity to review the report and to respond to the comments and recommendations included in this report. The officials declined to respond.

We appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended to our auditors during the course of the audit.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

COUNTY OVERALL

1. Segregation of Duties

Good internal control includes a plan of organization, procedures, and records designed to safeguard assets and provide reliable financial records. A system of internal control should include a proper segregation of duties so no one individual is capable of handling all phases of a transaction from beginning to end.

We noted the offices of the Treasurer, Clerk, Clerk of the District Court, Sheriff, Attorney, Planning and Zoning, and Highway Superintendent had a lack of segregation of duties since one person in each office could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. Due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties is not possible without additional cost.

We recommend the County review this situation. As always, the County must weigh the cost of hiring additional personnel versus the benefit of a proper segregation of duties.

COUNTY BOARD

2. Fund Balances

Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 13-511 R.S.Supp., 2002 sets forth the procedures for the County to follow whenever its adopted budget statement requires revision, such as instances in which additional expenses are being necessarily incurred. Additionally, Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 23-916 R.R.S. 1997 states that after the adoption of the county budget, no officer, department, or other expending agency shall expend or contract to be expended any money, or incur any liability, which involves expenditures in excess of the amounts provided in the adopted budget document. Lastly, sound accounting practices require procedures be in place to monitor fund balances on a continuing basis in order to prevent over-expending the fund and/or budget.

During our audit, we noted the following:

- The Inheritance Tax Fund had a \$14,336 negative ending budgeted fund balance.
- The County Building Fund had a \$58,530 negative actual ending fund balance.
- The Inheritance Tax Fund overexpended its budgeted expenditures by \$100,092 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(Continued)

COUNTY BOARD

2. Fund Balances (Concluded)

We recommend the County Board closely monitor expenditures, fund balances, and the adopted budget on an ongoing basis in order to avoid expending in excess of budgeted amounts as well as to avoid overexpending the budgeted and/or actual fund balances.

3. Inventory Procedures

Good internal control requires adequate documentation to support the deletion of an asset from inventory. In addition, sound accounting practice requires property to be listed on the annual inventory statements at either original cost or an estimated historical cost. Furthermore, the inventory form prescribed by the Auditor of Public Accounts as per Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 23-346 R.R.S. 1997 also requires all inventory listed therein to be reflected at original or estimated cost at acquisition.

During our audit, we noted the following:

- The Sheriff's Office deleted a \$1,500 fax machine from their 2003 inventory statement without obtaining and/or retaining any documentation as to the date of disposal, reason for the deletion, signatures of witness(es) to deletion, etc. Without adequate supporting documentation for the removal of assets from inventory, there is an increased risk of loss or misuse of County property.
- A 1993 Ford Crown Victoria, which had been listed at its original cost of \$22,000 on prior Sheriff's inventory listings, was transferred to the Assessor's office. However, when the Assessor's office added this asset to their inventory listing they listed original cost at only \$500; a difference of \$21,500. This was a prior year report comment as well.

We recommend all County offices document the dates and reasons for removal of assets from their inventory statements and obtain and/or retain adequate documentation supporting removal (e.g., witnessed destruction statement, trade-in and/or surplus sale information, etc.). In the case of items being thrown out and/or otherwise disposed of, this documentation should be signed by an official and witnessed by at least one additional individual, then kept on file for subsequent inspection. Lastly, we further recommend the Assessor's Office adjust their inventory statement to reflect only original costs or estimated historical costs.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(Continued)

COUNTY SHERIFF

4. Balancing Procedures

The Sheriff's Accounting Manual, issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, and sound accounting practice require at the close of each month's business office assets (cash on hand, reconciled bank balance, and accounts receivable) be in agreement with office liabilities (fees, commissions, mileage, and refunds). Failure to perform balancing procedures can result in the misuse or loss of funds and can result in errors going undetected.

During our audit, we noted the Sheriff's office assets did not balance to office liabilities as of October 22, 2003. Records indicated assets exceeded office liabilities by \$422.

We recommend the County Sheriff implement monthly balancing procedures to ensure office assets agree to office liabilities.

STATE OF NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS



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County Board of Commissioners Howard County, Nebraska

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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Robert Hotz, JD Legal Counsel robhotz@mail.state.ne.us We have audited the accompanying primary government financial statements of Howard County as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, as listed in the Table of Contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as discussed in the fourth and fifth paragraphs, we conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, these financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

A primary government is a legal entity or body politic and includes all funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that are not legally separate. Such legally separate entities are referred to as component units. In our

opinion, the primary government financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the fund balances of the primary government of Howard County as of June 30, 2003, and the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

However, the primary government financial statements, because they do not include the financial data of the Howard County Community Hospital, the component unit of Howard County, do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the fund balances of Howard County as of June 30, 2003, and the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 29, 2003 on our consideration of the primary government of Howard County's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The accompanying supplementary schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements of the County. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the primary government financial statements taken as a whole.

October 29, 2003

Deputy State Auditor

Dann Haeffrer CPA

Howard County, Nebraska Combined Statement of Assets, Other Debits, Fund Balances, Liabilities, and Other Credits Arising from Cash TransactionsAll Fund Types and Account Groups June 30, 2003

Exhibit A

		Governmenta	ıl Func	l Types	Fiduciary and Types	Aco	count Groups		Limiter 11
		General	Special Revenue		rust and Agency	General Fixed Assets		(M	Totals 2003 (emorandum Only)
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS	_								
Assets: Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments (Note 2) Fixed Assets (Note 5)	\$	1,046,130	\$	952,618	\$ 264,844	\$	- 3,781,846	\$	2,263,592 3,781,846
Total Assets and Other Debits	\$	1,046,130	\$	952,618	\$ 264,844	\$	3,781,846	\$	6,045,438
LIABILITIES FUND BALANCES AND OTHER CREDITS	_								
Liabilities: Due to Other Governments Partial Payments-Undistributed Tax Other Liabilities Total Liabilities	\$	- - -	\$	- - - -	\$ 244,139 12,120 8,585 264,844	\$	- - -	\$	244,139 12,120 8,585 264,844
Fund Balances and Other Credits: Investment in General Fixed Assets Fund Balances: Unreserved, Undesignated Total Fund Balances and Other Credits		1,046,130 1,046,130		952,618 952,618	-		3,781,846		3,781,846 1,998,748
Total Liabilities, Fund Balances and Other Credits	\$	1,046,130	\$	952,618	\$ 264,844	\$	3,781,846	\$	5,780,594 6,045,438

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Howard County, Nebraska Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances-All Governmental Fund Types For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Exhibit B

	Governmenta				
	General	Special Revenue	Totals 2003 (Memorandum Only)		
Receipts:		0.7.4.70			
Taxes (Note 3)	\$ 1,104,934	\$ 95,479	\$	1,200,413	
Intergovernmental Revenue	132,362	866,879		999,241	
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous (Note 6)	305,201	136,266		441,467	
Total Receipts	 1,542,497	 1,098,624		2,641,121	
Total Receipts	 1,542,497	 1,090,024		2,041,121	
Disbursements: Current:					
General Government	1,150,802	8,382		1,159,184	
Public Safety	413,426	152,183		565,609	
Public Works	42,682	966,972		1,009,654	
Public Health	20,361	-		20,361	
Public Welfare and Social Services	26,370	3,189		29,559	
Culture and Recreation	-	2,809		2,809	
Capital Outlay	62,758	 643,613		706,371	
Total Disbursements	 1,716,399	 1,777,148		3,493,547	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts					
over Disbursements	(173,902)	(678,524)		(852,426)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers from Other Funds	15,000	69,000		84,000	
Transfers to Other Funds	 (4,000)	 (80,000)		(84,000)	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 11,000	 (11,000)			
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disbursements	(162,002)	(690.524)		(952.426)	
and Other Financing Uses	 (162,902)	 (689,524)		(852,426)	
Fund Balances, July 1	 1,209,032	 1,642,142		2,851,174	
Fund Balances, June 30	\$ 1,046,130	\$ 952,618	\$	1,998,748	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Howard County, Nebraska Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances of the County Treasurer Budget and Actual-Governmental Fund Types For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Exhibit C

	General Fund									
		Actual		Budget		vorable favorable)				
Receipts: Taxes (Note 3) Intergovernmental Revenue Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,	\$	1,104,934 132,362	\$	1,041,515 116,175	\$	63,419 16,187				
and Miscellaneous (Note 6)		302,752		306,850		(4,098)				
Total Receipts		1,540,048		1,464,540		75,508				
Disbursements: Current:										
General Government		1,150,802		1,187,008		36,206				
Public Safety Public Works		413,426		413,122		(304)				
Public Works Public Health		42,682 20,361		44,810 23,000		2,128 2,639				
Public Welfare and Social Services		26,370		26,950		580				
Culture and Recreation		-		-		-				
Capital Outlay		62,758		81,225		18,467				
Total Disbursements		1,716,399		1,776,115		59,716				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts										
Over Disbursements		(176,351)		(311,575)		135,224				
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers from Other Funds		15,000		15,000		- (4.000)				
Transfers to Other Funds Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		(4,000) 11,000		15,000		$\frac{(4,000)}{(4,000)}$				
Total Other Financing Sources (Oses)		11,000		13,000		(4,000)				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-										
ments and Other Financing Uses		(165,351)		(296,575)		131,224				
Fund Balances, July 1		1,202,879		1,202,879						
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	1,037,528	\$	906,304	\$	131,224				

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Continued

Howard County, Nebraska Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances of the County Treasurer Budget and Actual-Governmental Fund Types For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Exhibit C

	Special Revenue Funds									
		Actual		Budget		Favorable nfavorable)				
Receipts: Taxes (Note 3) Intergovernmental Revenue		95,479 866,879	\$	90,485 890,346	\$	4,994 (23,467)				
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous (Note 6) Total Receipts		136,266 1,098,624		187,000 1,167,831		(50,734) (69,207)				
Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety		8,382 152,183		15,000 204,300		6,618 52,117				
Public Works Public Health		966,972		1,141,460		174,488				
Public Welfare and Social Services Culture and Recreation Capital Outlay		3,189 2,809 643,613		32,000 3,600 974,900		28,811 791 331,287				
Total Disbursements		1,777,148		2,371,260		594,112				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over Disbursements		(678,524)		(1,203,429)		524,905				
Other Financing Sources (Uses): Transfers from Other Funds Transfers to Other Funds Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		69,000 (80,000) (11,000)		465,000 (480,000) (15,000)		(396,000) 400,000 4,000				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disbursements and Other Financing Uses		(689,524)		(1,218,429)		528,905				
Fund Balances, July 1		1,642,142		1,642,142						
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	952,618	\$	423,713	\$	528,905				

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Continued

Howard County, Nebraska Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances of the County Treasurer Budget and Actual-Governmental Fund Types For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Exhibit C

2003 Total Governmental Funds (Memorandum Only)

	 	141011	orandum Omy	<u>, </u>		
	Actual		Budget	Favorable (Unfavorable)		
Receipts:						
Taxes (Note 3)	\$ 1,200,413	\$	1,132,000	\$	68,413	
Intergovernmental Revenue	999,241		1,006,521		(7,280)	
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,						
and Miscellaneous (Note 6)	439,018		493,850		(54,832)	
Total Receipts	2,638,672		2,632,371		6,301	
Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	1,159,184		1,202,008		42,824	
Public Safety	565,609		617,422		51,813	
Public Works	1,009,654		1,186,270		176,616	
Public Health	20,361		23,000		2,639	
Public Welfare and Social Services	29,559		58,950		29,391	
Culture and Recreation	2,809		3,600		791	
Capital Outlay	706,371		1,056,125		349,754	
Total Disbursements	3,493,547		4,147,375		653,828	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts						
Over Disbursements	(854,875)		(1,515,004)		660,129	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Transfers from Other Funds	84,000		480,000		(396,000)	
Transfers to Other Funds	(84,000)		(480,000)		396,000	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 -		(400,000)		-	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-						
ments and Other Financing Uses	(854,875)		(1,515,004)		660,129	
Fund Balances, July 1	2,845,021		2,845,021			
Fund Balances, June 30	\$ 1,990,146	\$	1,330,017	\$	660,129	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Concluded

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies utilized in the accounting system of Howard County.

A. Reporting Entity

Howard County (County) is a governmental entity established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska (State) since 1871. As a political subdivision of the State, the County is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. For financial reporting purposes, the County has included all funds and account groups that are not legally separate. The County has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the County are such that exclusion would cause the County's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County.

These financial statements present the County (the primary government). The Howard County Community Hospital (Hospital) is a component unit of the County because of the significance of its operational and financial relationship with the County. The financial statements do not include the data of the Hospital necessary for reporting in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Complete financial statements of the Hospital can be obtained from the Hospital's administrative office.

B. Fund Accounting

The County uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. An account group is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities that are not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources. A fund is a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a self-balancing set of accounts which record receipts, disbursements, and fund balances for the purpose of complying with the limitations and restrictions placed on the resources made available to the County. The major fund types used by the County are:

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

General Fund - to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue - to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Trust and Agency - to account for assets held by a governmental unit in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds.

C. Basis of Accounting

The funds of the County are maintained and the financial statements have been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Revenues are taken into account only when received by the County and expenditures are recorded when warrants are issued. Various officers of the County have accounts receivable. These are considered as cash items in the County financial statements. This dffers from generally accepted accounting principles which require governmental fund accounting to follow the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become susceptible to accrual and obligations are generally recognized when they are incurred.

D. Totals Columns - Memorandum Only

The "Memorandum Only" columns represent an aggregation of individual account balances. The columns are presented for overview informational purposes and do not present consolidated financial information since interfund balances and transactions have not been eliminated.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The County follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the schedules in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Nebraska Budget Act:

1. On or before August 1, the County Board prepares and transmits a budget for each County fund showing the requirements, the outstanding warrants, the operating reserve to be naintained, the cash on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, the revenue from sources other than taxation, and the

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

amount to be raised by taxation. The budget, like the County financial statements, is prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. The budget contains only those revenues which have actually been received by the County Treasurer.

- 2. At least one public hearing must be held by the County Board.
- 3. At a meeting of the County Board, the budget, as revised, is adopted and the amounts provided therein are appropriated.
- 4. The County Board is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund through resolution; however, revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund require that an additional public hearing be held. The legal level of budgetary control for the general fund is at the function level, and the special revenue fund types are at the fund level.
- 5. The County does not utilize an encumbrance accounting system. All appropriated spending authority lapses at the end of the fiscal year.
- 6. The County Board is authorized to budget for the transfer of money between County funds.

F. Fixed Assets and Long-Term Obligations

General fixed assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisitions are reflected as expenditures in governmental funds and the related assets are reported in the general fixed assets account group. All purchased fixed assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exist. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received. Assets on hand as of June 30, 2003, have been recorded at cost or estimated cost by the County.

Assets in the general fixed assets account group are not depreciated. Public domain general fixed assets consisting of roads, bridges, curbs and gutters, and streets and sidewalks, are not capitalized because these assets are immovable and of value only to the government.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Concluded)

The two account groups are not "funds." They are concerned only with the measurement of financial position. They are not involved with measurement of results of operations.

G. Compensated Absences

Vested or accumulated vacation leave that is liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as an expenditure of the County funds as paid. Upon termination, employees are paid for any unused vacation. Under GAAP the vested portion of the employee's compensated absences is recorded in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group for governmental funds. Under the receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, the balances which would be reported in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group are not reported because they do not represent balances arising from cash transactions.

2. Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments, and Designated Investments

The County has generally pooled the cash resources of the various funds for investment purposes. Each fund's portion of total cash and investments is summarized by fund type on the Combined Statement of Assets, Other Debits, Fund Balances, Liabilities, and Other Credits Arising from Cash Transactions as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments." Investments are stated at cost, which approximates market. Interest earned on pooled funds is credited to the County General Fund in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 77-2315 R.R.S. 1996. Investments made specifically from and for a particular fund are summarized as "Designated Investments." Interest on these investments is credited to the fund from which the investment is made, also in accordance with Section 77-2315. Whether funds are commingled or invested separately is at the discretion of the County Board. The types of investments in which the County is authorized to invest funds are enumerated in Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 77-2315 R.R.S. 1996, 77-2340 R.S.Supp., 2002, and 77-2341 R.R.S. 1996, and generally include U.S. government obligations, certificates of deposit, time deposits, and securities which are authorized by the Nebraska Investment Council.

For the following disclosures required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement #3, deposits include checking accounts, savings accounts, money-market accounts, certificates of deposit, and deposits into the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT).

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

2. Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments, and Designated Investments (Concluded)

	June 30, 2003 Carrying Amount					
Pooled cash and investments consist of:						
Cash on Hand	\$	25,732				
Deposits		2,492,679				
Investments		127,133				
Total		2,645,544				
Less Warrants Outstanding		381,952				
Total	<u>\$</u>	2,263,592				

The bank balance for all deposits as of June 30 was \$2,527,650 (with a carrying amount of \$2,492,679) and was entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral securities pledged to the County Treasurer and held by the safekeeping department of the depository's correspondent bank.

The County's carrying value of investments, which approximates market, consisted of \$127,133 deposited in NPAIT. NPAIT is a public entity investment pool operated under the direction of a seven member Board of Trustees. All net income of the trust is determined as of the close of business on each banking day and is credited thereafter pro rata to each participant's account. Net income which has accrued to each participant is converted as of the close of business of each calendar month into additional units which thereafter are held in each participant's trust account. Since net income of the fund is allocated among participants each time net income is determined, the net asset value remains at \$1.00 per unit.

3. **Property Taxes**

Property taxes are levied by the County Board on or before October 15 of each year for all political subdivisions in the County. Real estate and personal property taxes are due and attach as an enforceable lien on January 1 following the levy date, and become delinquent in two equal installments on May 1 and September 1. Motor vehicle taxes are due when application is made for registration of a motor vehicle.

Counties are permitted by the State Constitution to levy a tax of up to \$.50/\$100 of assessed valuation for general governmental services other than the payment of principal and interest on bonded debt. They may levy taxes in addition to the 50 cent limitation upon a vote of the people.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

3. <u>Property Taxes</u> (Concluded)

The levy set in October, 2002, for the 2002 taxes which will be materially collected in May and September, 2003, was set at \$.238963/\$100 of assessed valuation. The levy set in October, 2001, for the 2001 taxes which were materially collected in May and September, 2002, was set at \$.254741/\$100 of assessed valuation. The amount collected for motor vehicle tax is outlined in State Statute.

Additionally, there is currently a statutory lid limitation which limits taxation to the prior year's level, with provisions for growth. It may be increased by 1% by a three-fourths majority of the County Board.

4. Retirement System

The Retirement System for Nebraska Counties (the Plan) is a multiple-employer defined contribution plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board in accordance with the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Act. The Plan provisions are established under Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 23-2301 through 23-2335 and may be amended through legislative action.

Participation in the Plan is required of all full time employees upon the completion of 12 months of continuous service and of all full time elected officials upon taking office. Full time or part time (working less than one-half of the regularly scheduled hours) employees may elect voluntary participation upon reaching age 25 and completing a total of 12 months service within a five-year period. Part time elected officials may exercise the option to join.

Prior to January 1, 2003, county employees and elected officials contributed 4% of their total compensation. Effective January 1, 2003, county employees and elected officials contribute 4.5% of their total compensation. In addition, the County contributes an amount equal to 150% of the employee's contribution. The contribution rates are established by Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 23-2307 and 23-2308 R.S.Supp., 2002, and may be amended through legislative action. The employee's and employer's contributions are kept in separate accounts. The employee's account is fully vested. The employer's account is fully vested after three years of participation in the system, including the twelve month eligibility period or credit for participation in another governmental plan prior to actual contribution to the Plan. Prior service benefits are paid directly by the County to the retired employee.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Plan offered County employees a choice of continuing participation in the defined contribution plan or transferring their balances to a cash balance plan. Members of the Plan were required to make an election whether to enter

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

4. Retirement System (Concluded)

the new cash balance plan or remain in the defined contribution plan prior to January 1, 2003. All new members of the Plan on or after January 1, 2003, are required to join the cash balance plan. Also effective January 1, 2003, a supplemental retirement plan was established for the benefit of all present and future commissioned law enforcement personnel employed by the County. Employees contribute 1% of their salary and the County contributes an amount equal to 100% of the employee's contribution. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the Plan plus investment earnings. In the cash balance plan, benefits equal an amount based on annual employee contribution credits plus interest credits and, if vested, employer contribution credits plus interest credits.

For the year ended June 30, 2003, 41 employees contributed \$40,267; the County contributed \$60,401 in cash contributions for the County retirement plan. Additionally, for the year ended June 30, 2003, five employees contributed \$564 and the County also contributed \$564 in cash contributions for the supplemental law enforcement plan. Lastly, the County paid \$876 directly to three retired employees for prior service benefits.

5. <u>Fixed Assets</u>

The following is a summary of changes in the general fixed assets account group during the fiscal year:

	В	alance						Balance						
	July 1, 2002		July 1, 2002		July 1, 2002			July 1, 2002 Additions				June 30, 2003		
Land	\$	3,109	\$	-	\$	2	\$	3,107						
Buildings		416,030		-		-		416,030						
Machinery and Equipment		3,236,619		150,008		23,918		3,362,709						
Total General Fixed Assets	\$ 3	3,655,758	\$	150,008	\$	23,920	\$	3,781,846						

6. Budget to Actual Comparison of Local Receipts

Only the County Treasurer's Local Receipts are reflected in the County Budget on Exhibit C. This is a comparison and reconciliation of the County Treasurer's Local Receipts to the County Total Local Receipts, which includes the County portion of receipts on hand at June 30, 2003 held by other County offices.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

6. <u>Budget to Actual Comparison of Local Receipts</u> (Concluded)

Budget (Exhibit C) Reflected Local Receipts:	\$ 302,752
	302,732
Local Receipts in Funds not in Budget:	
Clerk	4,936
Clerk of the District Court	293
Sheriff	3,273
Attorney	100
Total Local Receipts in Funds not in Budget	8,602
Less Local Receipts in Funds not in Budget	
From Prior Year	(6,153)
Actual Local Receipts (Exhibit B)	\$ 305,201

7. **Joint Venture**

Howard County has entered into an agreement with the other counties in Region III in conjunction with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to provide services to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services Act and related alcoholism and drug abuse services and the Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Acts). Region III consists of the following counties: Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Custer, Valley, Greeley, Sherman, Howard, Buffalo, Hall, Phelps, Kearney, Adams, Clay, Furnas, Harlan, Hamilton, Merrick, Franklin, Webster, and Nuckolls. Separate agreements were established under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided under each of the Acts. The governing board for Region III services are established by Statute and the agreements and include representatives from the participating county boards. Each county contributes to the financial support of the Region activities based on formulas developed by the Region governing boards and as required by the Acts. Funding is provided by a combination of federal, state, local, and private funding. Howard County contributed \$22,632 toward the operation of Region III during fiscal year 2003. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services requires the Region to be audited annually in accordance with State Statute. Financial information for the Region is available in those audit reports.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

8. <u>County Insurance</u>

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County is a member of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for 70 counties throughout Nebraska.

The County pays an annual deposit premium as calculated by the administrator of the pool. The premium is based on the losses and exposures of each County and the entire Pool. If the Pool becomes insolvent or is otherwise unable to discharge its legal liabilities and other obligations, the County may be assessed by the Board for an additional contribution equal to its contribution for the current fiscal year, divided by the contribution of all participants for such year, times the amount of such deficiency. Each such assessment, and the manner of calculating the same, shall be sent to each county in writing, and each county shall thereafter have sixty (60) days in which to pay the amount of such assessment. Each county shall remain liable for such assessments, regardless of such county's withdrawal from participation or the termination of the agreement, and for liabilities of the Pool incurred during such county's period of membership.

The agreement with NIRMA provides that NIRMA will provide coverage for up to a maximum of \$25,000 for each property damage claim, \$300,000 for each general liability, and \$500,000 for each worker's compensation claim. NIRMA purchases commercial insurance for claims in excess of coverage provided. In the event of a liability exceeding \$5,000,000 per general liability occurrence or \$10,000,000 per worker's compensation claim, the County would be responsible for funding the excess amount.

The County has not paid any additional assessments to the Pool in the last three fiscal years and no assessments are anticipated for fiscal year 2004. The County has not had to pay out any amounts that exceeded coverage provided by the Pool in the last three fiscal years.

9. Overexpended Budget

The Inheritance Tax Fund overexpended its budgeted expenditures by \$100,092 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003.

Howard County, Nebraska Combining Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances Arising from Cash Transactions by County Offices June 30, 2003

		_										
	County Treasurer			County Clerk		Clerk of the District Court		County Sheriff		County Attorney		TOTAL OF ALL OFFICES
ASSETS Cash, Deposits, and Cash Items	\$	2,243,349	\$	7,717	\$	9,121	\$	3,273	\$	132	\$	2,263,592
Total Assets	\$	2,243,349	\$	7,717	\$	9,121	\$	3,273	\$	132	\$	2,263,592
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities: Due to Other Governments Partial Payments-Undistributed Tax Other Liabilities Total Liabilities	\$	241,083 12,120 - 253,203	\$	2,781	\$	275 - 8,553 8,828	\$	- - - -	\$	- - 32 32	\$	244,139 12,120 8,585 264,844
Fund Balances: General, Unreserved, Undesignated Special Revenue, Unreserved, Undesignated		1,037,528		4,936		293		3,273		100		1,046,130
Total Fund Balances Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	1,990,146 2,243,349	\$	4,936 7,717	\$	293 9,121	\$	3,273 3,273	\$	100 132	\$	1,998,748 2,263,592
			_		_		_		_		_	

Howard County, Nebraska Statement of Disbursements Compared to Budget-by Function General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

GENER A I	GOVERNMEN'	Т
OENEKAL	OO VERNIMEN	1

		Board of								
	;	Supervisors/								Election
	C	ommissioners		Clerk		Treasurer		Assessor	(Commissioner
Disbursements:										
Personal Service	\$	81,550	\$	75,885	\$	73,387	\$	75,865	\$	6,704
Operating Expense		6,687		5,105		7,125		18,780		665
Supplies/Materials		189		3,808		2,539		1,726		901
Equipment Rental		-		-		-		-		200
Capital Outlay		-		-		4,390		3,279		412
Total Disbursements		88,426		84,798		87,441		99,650		8,882
Budget:										
Budget less Capital Outlay		90,050		89,750		85,386		100,186		12,000
Budget Adjustments		J0,050 -		07,750		03,500		100,100		12,000
Budget Capital Outlay		_		2,000		3,000		4,200		_
Total Budget		90,050		91,750		88,386		104,386		12,000
Favorable (Unfavorable)	\$	1,624	\$	6,952	\$	945	\$	4,736	\$	3,118
Tavorable (Omavorable)	Ψ	1,021	Ψ	0,732	Ψ	713	Ψ	1,730	Ψ	3,110
		GE	NER.	AL GOVERNM	EN	Т		PUBLIC	SAF	ETY
						Total				
		Miscellan-]	Planning and		General				
		eous		Zoning		Government		Sheriff		Attorney
Disbursements:										
Personal Service	\$	485,333	\$	15,650	\$	866,038	\$	213,510	\$	55,773
Operating Expense		187,255		4,337		261,868		40,326		4,079
Supplies/Materials		3,286		77		22,696		19,187		325
Equipment Rental		-		-		200		2,504		-
Capital Outlay		5,926		-		18,051		44,707		-
Total Disbursements		681,800		20,064		1,168,853		320,234		60,177
Budget:										
Budget less Capital Outlay		677,486		20,850		1,187,008		254,738		64,684
Budget Adjustments		077,400		20,030		1,107,000		15,000		04,004
Budget Capital Outlay		10,000		_		25,650		51,000		4,575
Total Budget		687,486		20,850		1,212,658		320,738		69,259
Favorable (Unfavorable)	\$	5,686	\$	786	\$	43,805	\$	504	\$	9,082
Tuvoruoro (Omiuvoruoro)		2,000	-	, 00	Ψ	PUBLIC	Ψ	PUBLIC WE	_	
		PUBLIC	wo	RKS		HEALTH		SOCIAL S		
		TOBLIC	11.0	Total		Health		Veterans'	LIC	VICES
		Miscellan-		Public		Miscellan-		Service		Miscellan-
		eous		Works		eous		Officer		eous
Disbursements:		cous		WOIKS		cous		Officer		cous
Personal Service	\$	2,500	\$	10,168	\$	_	\$		\$	
Operating Expense	Ψ	29,785	Ψ	32,041	Ψ	20,361	Ψ	17,950	Ψ	8,420
Supplies/Materials		27,763		473		20,301		17,550		0,420
Equipment Rental		_		7/3		_		_		_
Capital Outlay		-		-		-		-		-
Total Disbursements		32,285		42,682		20,361		17,950		8,420
		32,263		42,082		20,301		17,730		0,420
Budget:										
Budget less Capital Outlay		33,410		44,810		23,000		17,950		9,000
Budget Adjustments		-		-		-		-		-
Budget Capital Outlay		-		_		-		- 		-
Total Budget	<u></u>	33,410	ø	44,810	Ф	23,000	ø	17,950	ď	9,000
Favorable (Unfavorable)	\$	1,125	\$	2,128	\$	2,639	\$	-	\$	580

GENERAL	GOV	JERNN	ЛFNT
CHENNING	(1())	V I SIX I NII	/II > N I

	Clerk of		County		Building				
	the District	Court		2		and			Extension
	Court		System		Grounds		Agent		
¢	0.730	\$		\$	10.002	¢	22.052		
\$	8,728	Э	-	Э	18,983	\$	23,953		
	407		85		27,873		3,549		
	1,072		3,105		3,044		2,949		
	-		-		-		-		
	1,659		2,097		-		288		
	11,866		5,287		49,900		30,739		
	11,800		4,100		64,450		30,950		
	-		-		-		-		
	3,000		2,000		500		950		
	14,800		6,100		64,950		31,900		
\$	2,934	\$	813	\$	15,050	\$	1,161		

	PUBLIC SAFETY		PUBLIC WORKS
County Jail	Miscellan- eous	Total Public Safety	Highway Superintendent
\$ 68,918 - - - - 68,918	\$ - 8,804 - - - - - 8,804	\$ 269,283 122,127 19,512 2,504 44,707 458,133	\$ 7,668 2,256 473 - - - 10,397
 69,000 - - 69,000 82	9,700 - - - 9,700 \$ 896	398,122 15,000 55,575 468,697 \$ 10,564	11,400 - - 11,400 \$ 1,003

	CULTURE AND	TOTAL ALL
	RECREATION	FUNCTIONS
Total Public	Culture	
Welfare and	Miscellan-	2003
Social Services	eous	
\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,145,489
26,370) -	462,767
-	-	42,681
-	-	2,704
-	-	62,758
26,370) -	1,716,399
26,950) -	1,679,890
-	_	15,000
-	-	81,225
26,950) -	1,776,115
¢ 500) ¢	¢ 50.716

	Road/Bridge Fund						
		Actual		Budget		avorable (favorable)	
Receipts:						,	
Taxes	\$	183	\$	85	\$	98	
Intergovernmental Revenue		814,237		836,746		(22,509)	
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,							
and Miscellaneous		7,606		2,000		5,606	
Total Receipts		822,026		838,831		(16,805)	
Disbursements:							
Personal Services		342,520		373,840		31,320	
Operating Expenses		73,723		92,200		18,477	
Supplies/Materials		392,102		493,300		101,198	
Equipment Rental		94,846		100,000		5,154	
Capital Outlay		266,915		293,000		26,085	
Total Disbursements		1,170,106		1,352,340		182,234	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts							
over Disbursements		(348,080)		(513,509)		165,429	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-	
Transfers to Other Funds						_	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)							
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-							
ments and Other Financing Uses		(348,080)		(513,509)		165,429	
Fund Balances, July 1		674,713		674,713			
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	326,633	\$	161,204	\$	165,429	

	Relief-Medical Fund						
	1	Actual		Budget		avorable favorable)	
Receipts:							
Taxes	\$	44	\$	-	\$	44	
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-	
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,							
and Miscellaneous		-				-	
Total Receipts	_	44				44	
Disbursements:							
Personal Services		-		-		-	
Operating Expenses		1,500		20,000		18,500	
Supplies/Materials		-		-		-	
Equipment Rental		-		-		-	
Capital Outlay		-				-	
Total Disbursements		1,500		20,000		18,500	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts							
over Disbursements		(1,456)		(20,000)		18,544	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-	
Transfers to Other Funds		-		-			
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)				-			
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other							
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-		(1.476)		(20.000)		10.544	
ments and Other Financing Uses		(1,456)		(20,000)		18,544	
Fund Balances, July 1		44,304		44,304			
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	42,848	\$	24,304	\$	18,544	

	Institutions Fund								
		Actual	Bu	ıdget		vorable avorable)			
Receipts:									
Taxes	\$	4	\$	-	\$	4			
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-			
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,									
and Miscellaneous		_		_		-			
Total Receipts		4				4			
Disbursements:									
Personal Services		_		_		-			
Operating Expenses		1,689		12,000		10,311			
Supplies/Materials				-		-			
Equipment Rental		-		_		-			
Capital Outlay		-		-		-			
Total Disbursements		1,689		12,000		10,311			
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts									
over Disbursements		(1,685)		(12,000)		10,315			
Other Financing Sources (Uses):									
Transfers from Other Funds		_		_		_			
Transfers to Other Funds		_		_		_			
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-							
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other									
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-		(1.695)		(12 000)		10.215			
ments and Other Financing Uses		(1,685)		(12,000)		10,315			
Fund Balances, July 1		18,346		18,346					
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	16,661	\$	6,346	\$	10,315			

	Employment Security Act Fund									
	1	Actual	Budget		vorable favorable)					
Receipts:										
Taxes	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-					
Intergovernmental Revenue		-	-		-					
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous		_	-		-					
Total Receipts		-			-					
Disbursements:										
Personal Services		-	-		-					
Operating Expenses		8,382	15,000		6,618					
Supplies/Materials		-	-		-					
Equipment Rental		-	-		-					
Capital Outlay					-					
Total Disbursements		8,382	15,000		6,618					
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts										
over Disbursements		(8,382)	(15,000)		6,618					
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers from Other Funds Transfers to Other Funds		15,000	15,000		-					
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		15,000	15,000		<u> </u>					
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-										
ments and Other Financing Uses		6,618		_	6,618					
Fund Balances, July 1		978	978							
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	7,596	\$ 978	\$	6,618					

		Inherit	ance Tax Fund	
	Actual		Budget	Favorable nfavorable)
Receipts:				<u> </u>
Taxes	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
Intergovernmental Revenue	-		-	-
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,				
and Miscellaneous	 54,420		70,000	 (15,580)
Total Receipts	 54,420		70,000	(15,580)
Disbursements:				
Personal Services	-		-	-
Operating Expenses	-		-	-
Supplies/Materials	-		-	-
Equipment Rental	-		-	-
Capital Outlay	 100,092			 (100,092)
Total Disbursements	 100,092		-	(100,092)
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts				
over Disbursements	 (45,672)		70,000	 (115,672)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers from Other Funds	-		-	-
Transfers to Other Funds	(80,000)		(480,000)	 400,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 (80,000)		(480,000)	 400,000
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other				
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-				
ments and Other Financing Uses	 (125,672)		(410,000)	284,328
Fund Balances, July 1	 395,664		395,664	
Fund Balances, June 30	\$ 269,992	\$	(14,336)	\$ 284,328

	Noxious Weed Fund						
		Actual]	Budget		ivorable favorable)	
Receipts:							
Taxes	\$	4	\$	-	\$	4	
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-	
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous		_		_		_	
Total Receipts		4		-		4	
Disbursements:							
Personal Services		49,588		47,020		(2,568)	
Operating Expenses		3,668		4,350		682	
Supplies/Materials		10,275		12,250		1,975	
Equipment Rental		250		500		250	
Capital Outlay		-		-		-	
Total Disbursements		63,781		64,120		339	
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts							
over Disbursements		(63,777)		(64,120)		343	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Transfers from Other Funds		40,000		40,000		-	
Transfers to Other Funds		-				-	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		40,000		40,000			
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-							
ments and Other Financing Uses		(23,777)		(24,120)		343	
Fund Balances, July 1		52,914		52,914			
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	29,137	\$	28,794	\$	343	

	Law Enforcement Fund							
	Actual		Budget		Favorable (Unfavorable)			
Receipts:	<u>-</u>							
Taxes Intergovernmental Revenue	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,				_		_		
and Miscellaneous		_		38,000		(38,000)		
Total Receipts		-		38,000		(38,000)		
						, , ,		
Disbursements:								
Personal Services		-		32,000		32,000		
Operating Expenses		-		-		-		
Supplies/Materials		1,036		6,000		4,964		
Equipment Rental		-		-		-		
Capital Outlay Total Disbursements		1.026		28,000		36,964		
Total Disoursements		1,036		38,000	-	30,904		
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts								
over Disbursements		(1,036)				(1,036)		
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Transfers from Other Funds		-		_		-		
Transfers to Other Funds		-				-		
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-		-		-		
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other								
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-		(4.00.6)				(4.00.5)		
ments and Other Financing Uses		(1,036)				(1,036)		
Fund Balances, July 1		1,036		1,036				
Fund Balances, June 30	\$		\$	1,036	\$	(1,036)		

	Central Communications Fund							
	Actual		Budget		Favorable (Unfavorable)			
Receipts:								
Taxes	\$	95,239	\$	90,400	\$	4,839		
Intergovernmental Revenue		672		600		72		
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,								
and Miscellaneous		41,900		43,000		(1,100)		
Total Receipts		137,811		134,000		3,811		
Disbursements:								
Personal Services		115,413		123,300		7,887		
Operating Expenses		9,755		10,500		745		
Supplies/Materials		2,305		2,000		(305)		
Equipment Rental		-		_		-		
Capital Outlay		5,429		1,500		(3,929)		
Total Disbursements		132,902		137,300		4,398		
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts								
over Disbursements		4,909		(3,300)		8,209		
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Transfers from Other Funds		_		_		_		
Transfers to Other Funds		_		_		_		
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-						
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-								
ments and Other Financing Uses		4,909		(3,300)		8,209		
-								
Fund Balances, July 1		45,013		45,013				
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	49,922	\$	41,713	\$	8,209		

			Emerge	ency 911 Fund	l	
		Actual		Budget		avorable favorable)
Receipts:						
Taxes Intergovernmental Revenue Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
and Miscellaneous		32,340		34,000		(1,660)
Total Receipts		32,340		34,000		(1,660)
Disbursements:						
Personal Services		-		-		-
Operating Expenses		7,405		11,000		3,595
Supplies/Materials		776		3,000		2,224
Equipment Rental		-		-		-
Capital Outlay		-		14,000		14,000
Total Disbursements		8,181		28,000		19,819
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts						
over Disbursements		24,159		6,000		18,159
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-
Transfers to Other Funds						
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-						
ments and Other Financing Uses		24,159		6,000		18,159
Fund Balances, July 1		113,954		113,954		
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	138,113	\$	119,954	\$	18,159

	Emergency Bridge Fund									
	1	Actual	F	Budget		vorable favorable)				
Receipts:										
Taxes	\$	5	\$	-	\$	5				
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-				
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous										
Total Receipts		5		-		5				
Total Receipts										
Disbursements:										
Personal Services		-		-		-				
Operating Expenses		-		-		-				
Supplies/Materials		-		-		-				
Equipment Rental		-		-		-				
Capital Outlay		-		95,000		95,000				
Total Disbursements		-		95,000		95,000				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts										
over Disbursements		5		(95,000)		95,005				
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-				
Transfers to Other Funds		-		-		-				
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)										
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-										
ments and Other Financing Uses		5		(95,000)		95,005				
Fund Balances, July 1		95,598		95,598						
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	95,603	\$	598	\$	95,005				

	Handicap Accessibility Fund								
		Actual	I	Budget	Favorable (Unfavorable)				
Receipts:				_					
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-			
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-			
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions,									
and Miscellaneous		-							
Total Receipts		-		-		-			
Disbursements:									
Personal Services		_		-		-			
Operating Expenses		_		18,000		18,000			
Supplies/Materials		_		-		-			
Equipment Rental		_		-		-			
Capital Outlay		-		-		-			
Total Disbursements		-		18,000		18,000			
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts									
over Disbursements		-		(18,000)		18,000			
Other Financing Sources (Uses):									
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-			
Transfers to Other Funds		-		_					
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)									
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other									
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-									
ments and Other Financing Uses				(18,000)		18,000			
Fund Balances, July 1		18,668		18,668					
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	18,668	\$	668	\$	18,000			

	County Building Fund										
		Actual	Budget			avorable nfavorable)					
Receipts:											
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-					
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		-		-					
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous											
Total Receipts		-		_		-					
Disbursements:											
Personal Services		-		-		-					
Operating Expenses		-		-		-					
Supplies/Materials		-		-		-					
Equipment Rental		-		-		-					
Capital Outlay		225,883	520,00			294,117					
Total Disbursements		225,883	520,00	00		294,117					
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts											
over Disbursements		(225,883)	(520,00	00)		294,117					
Other Financing Sources (Uses):											
Transfers from Other Funds		-	400,00	00		(400,000)					
Transfers to Other Funds		-		-		-					
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)			400,00	00		(400,000)					
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-											
ments and Other Financing Uses		(225,883)	(120,00	00)		(105,883)					
Fund Balances, July 1		167,353	167,35	53		-					
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	(58,530)	\$ 47,35	3	\$	(105,883)					

	Civil Defense Fund									
	,	Actual	E	Budget		vorable avorable)				
Receipts:										
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Intergovernmental Revenue		1,325		-		1,325				
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous		_		-		_				
Total Receipts		1,325		-		1,325				
Disbursements:										
Personal Services		-		-		_				
Operating Expenses		15,493		16,500		1,007				
Supplies/Materials		-		-		-				
Equipment Rental		-		-		-				
Capital Outlay		-		-		-				
Total Disbursements		15,493		16,500		1,007				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts										
over Disbursements		(14,168)		(16,500)		2,332				
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers from Other Funds		14,000		10,000		4,000				
Transfers to Other Funds		-		-		-				
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		14,000		10,000		4,000				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other										
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-										
ments and Other Financing Uses		(168)		(6,500)		6,332				
Fund Balances, July 1		10,986		10,986						
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	10,818	\$	4,486	\$	6,332				

	Tourism Promotion Fund									
	I	Actual	Bu	dget		vorable avorable)				
Receipts:										
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Intergovernmental Revenue		5,351		3,000		2,351				
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous		_		_		_				
Total Receipts		5,351		3,000		2,351				
Disbursements:										
Personal Services		_		_		_				
Operating Expenses		2,809		3,600		791				
Supplies/Materials		-,		-		-				
Equipment Rental		-		_		_				
Capital Outlay		-		1,400		1,400				
Total Disbursements		2,809		5,000		2,191				
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts										
over Disbursements		2,542		(2,000)		4,542				
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-				
Transfers to Other Funds		-								
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-								
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-										
ments and Other Financing Uses		2,542		(2,000)		4,542				
Fund Balances, July 1		2,615		2,615						
Fund Balances, June 30	\$	5,157	\$	615	\$	4,542				

	Historical Society Grant Fund										
	A	Actual	I	Budget		vorable avorable)					
Receipts:											
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-					
Intergovernmental Revenue		45,294		50,000		(4,706)					
Local Fees, Licenses, Commissions, and Miscellaneous		_		-		-					
Total Receipts		45,294		50,000		(4,706)					
Disbursements:											
Personal Services		-		-		-					
Operating Expenses		-		-		-					
Supplies/Materials		-		-		-					
Equipment Rental		-		-		-					
Capital Outlay		45,294		50,000		4,706					
Total Disbursements		45,294		50,000		4,706					
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts											
over Disbursements		-				-					
Other Financing Sources (Uses):											
Transfers from Other Funds		-		-		-					
Transfers to Other Funds		-	. <u> </u>								
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-									
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other											
Financing Sources over (under) Disburse-											
ments and Other Financing Uses		-									
Fund Balances, July 1											
Fund Balances, June 30	\$		\$		\$	-					

Howard County, Nebraska Statement of Assets and Liabilities -County Treasurer Trust and Agency Funds For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance y 1, 2002	1	Additions	Ι	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2003	
ASSETS							
Cash and Deposits	\$ 223,784	\$	8,174,361	\$	8,144,942	\$	253,203
Total Assets	\$ 223,784	\$	8,174,361	\$	8,144,942	\$	253,203
LIABILITIES							
Trust and Agency Funds:							
State	\$ 58,826	\$	1,351,001	\$	1,330,644	\$	79,183
Schools	79,466		5,009,394		4,994,674		94,186
Educational Service Units	653		61,463		61,343		773
Technical College	3,052		286,584		286,038		3,598
Natural Resource Districts	8,880	96,470		104,186			1,164
Fire Districts	28,555		175,761	174,188			30,128
Municipalities	15,834		622,054		621,388		16,500
Agricultural Society	259		24,624	24,573			310
Partial Payments-							
Undistributed Tax	12,444		25,342		25,666		12,120
Tax Refund Account	2,141		269,522		268,909		2,754
Irrigation Districts	11,967		122,557		128,615		5,909
Reclamation Districts	1,641		123,255		119,089		5,807
Historical Society	66		6,334	5,629		771	
Total Liabilities	\$ 223,784	\$	8,174,361	\$	8,144,942	\$	253,203

Howard County Clerk

St. Paul, Nebraska

Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	alance y 1, 2002	 Additions	D	eductions	Balance June 30, 2003	
ASSETS						
Cash and Deposits	\$ 5,621	\$ 101,463	\$	100,049	\$	7,035
Accounts Receivables	439	682		439		682
Total Assets	\$ 6,060	\$ 102,145	\$	100,488	\$	7,717
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities:						
Due to State Treasurer:						
Title Fees	\$ 1,740	\$ 20,816	\$	20,638	\$	1,918
Documentary Stamp Tax	854	20,104		20,143		815
Game and Park Permits	 103	 769		824		48
Total	 2,697	 41,689		41,605		2,781
Due to County Clerk:						
Plat Map Sales	-	724		724		-
Total	-	724		724		-
Total Liabilities	 2,697	42,413		42,329		2,781
Fund Balances:						
Unreserved, Undesignated						
Consists of:						
Recording Fees	1,965	38,663		37,130		3,498
Title Fees	921	10,613		10,584		950
Map Sales, copies	75	1,811		1,799		87
Documentary Stamp Tax	342	8,045		8,061		326
Marriage Licenses	60	600		585		75
Total Fund Balances	3,363	59,732		58,159		4,936
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 6,060	\$ 102,145	\$	100,488	\$	7,717

Howard County Clerk of the District Court St. Paul, Nebraska

Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balances

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance July 1, 2002		Additions Deductions		Balance June 30, 200		
ASSETS							
Cash and Deposits	\$ 7,368	\$	106,069	\$	104,316	\$	9,121
Total Assets	\$ 7,368	\$	106,069	\$	104,316	\$	9,121
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities:							
Due to State Treasurer:	4.50		• • • •		• • • •		• • •
State Fees	\$ 150	\$	2,081	\$	2,030	\$	201
Law Enforcement Fees	(1)		38		33		4
State Judges Retirement Fund	6		116		87		35
Legal Aid Fees	 25		504		494		35
Total	 180	-	2,739		2,644		275
Trust Fund Benefits:							
Payable	6,908		96,323		94,678		8,553
Total	6,908		96,323		94,678		8,553
Total Liabilities	7,088		99,062		97,322		8,828
Fund Balances: Unreserved, Undesignated Consists of:							
Regular Fees	265		6,875		6,856		284
Interest	15		132		138		9
Total Fund Balances	 280		7,007		6,994		293
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 7,368	\$	106,069	\$	104,316	\$	9,121

Howard County Sheriff St. Paul, Nebraska Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance July 1, 2002		Additions		Deductions		Balance June 30, 2003	
ASSETS								
Cash and Deposits	\$	906	\$	24,337	\$	23,202	\$	2,041
Accounts Receivables		1,504		1,232		1,504		1,232
Total Assets	\$	2,410	\$	25,569	\$	24,706	\$	3,273
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE Liabilities: Inmate Trust Total Liabilities	S 	<u>-</u>	\$	6,876 6,876	\$	6,876 6,876	\$	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances:								
Unreserved, Undesignated								
Consists of:								
Inspection Fees		240		2,600		2,600		240
Fees, Commissions, Mileage		2,135		15,533		14,645		3,023
Handgun Permits		35		560		585		10
Total Fund Balances		2,410		18,693		17,830		3,273
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	2,410	\$	25,569	\$	24,706	\$	3,273

Howard County Attorney

St. Paul, Nebraska

Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balances For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

		lance 1, 2002	Additions		Deductions		Balance June 30, 2003	
ASSETS								
Cash and Deposits	\$	98	\$	9,089	\$	9,055	\$	132
Total Assets	\$	98	\$	9,089	\$	9,055	\$	132
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANC Liabilities: Trust Fund Benefits: Restitution Payable Total Liabilities	ES _\$	(2)	\$	7,259 7,259	\$	7,225 7,225	\$	32 32
Fund Balances: Unreserved, Undesignated Consists of: Collection Fee Petty Cash Total Fund Balances		- 100 100		1,830 - 1,830		1,830		- 100 100
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	98	\$	9,089	\$	9,055	\$	132

Howard County Highway Superintendent St. Paul, Nebraska Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Balance July 1, 2002		Additions		Deductions		Balance June 30, 2003	
ASSETS	Ф		Ф	0.615	Ф	0.615	Ф	
Cash	\$	-	\$	8,615	\$	8,615	\$	-
Total Assets	\$	-	\$	8,615	\$	8,615	\$	-
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities: Due to State Treasurer: Sales Tax Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances: Unreserved, Undesignated Consists of: Sale of Surplus Property Road/Bridge Work Miscellaneous Total Fund Balances		- - -		708 6,407 1,500 8,615		708 6,407 1,500 8,615		- - - -
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	-	\$	8,615	\$	8,615	\$	

Howard County Planning and Zoning

St. Paul, Nebraska

Statement of Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Schedule E-6

	Bala	ance					Bal	ance
	July 1, 2002		Additions		Deductions		June 30, 2003	
ASSETS Cash and Deposits	\$	_	\$	2,731	\$	2,731	\$	
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>	\$	2,731	\$	2,731	\$	
Total Assets	D		Þ	2,731	Þ	2,731	D	
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities: Other Liabilities Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances:								
Unreserved, Undesignated								
Consists of:								
Permits		-		2,731		2,731		
Total Fund Balance		-		2,731		2,731		_

\$

2,731

\$

2,731

\$

Total Liabilities and Fund Balances

Howard County Comparative Analysis Of Total Tax Certified, Corrections, and Collections For Past Five Tax Years Of All Political Subdivisions In Howard County

Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Tax Certified by Assessor					
Real Estate	\$ 5,248,121	\$ 5,502,221	\$ 5,839,880	\$ 6,062,109	\$ 6,222,841
Personal and Specials	426,162	427,169	420,121	426,112	449,087
Total	5,674,283	5,929,390	6,260,001	6,488,221	6,671,928
Corrections					
Additions	4,883	5,390	1,286	8,641	2,805
Deductions	8,358	8,713	7,569	5,027	3,477
Net Additions/					
(Deductions)	(3,475)	(3,323)	(6,283)	3,614	(672)
Corrected Certified Tax	5,670,808	5,926,067	6,253,718	6,491,835	6,671,256
Net Tax Collected by					
County Treasurer during					
Fiscal Year Ending:					
June 30, 1999	3,106,103	-	-	-	-
June 30, 2000	2,536,269	3,246,153	-	-	-
June 30, 2001	16,422	2,659,730	3,470,405	-	-
June 30, 2002	3,137	4,995	2,753,579	3,617,463	-
June 30, 2003	1,436	7,375	13,888	2,832,111	3,717,299
Total Net Collections	5,663,367	5,918,253	6,237,872	6,449,574	3,717,299
Total Uncollected Tax	\$ 7,441	\$ 7,814	\$ 15,846	\$ 42,261	\$ 2,953,957
Percentage Uncollected Tax	0.13%	0.13%	0.25%	0.65%	44.28%

STATE OF NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS



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HOWARD COUNTY

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

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Robert Hotz, JD Legal Counsel robhotz@mail.state.ne.us We have audited the financial statements of Howard County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated October 29, 2003. The report notes the financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements and do not include the financial data of the Howard County Community Hospital, a component unit of Howard County. Except as discussed above, we conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Howard County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. We noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of Howard County in the Comments Section of this report as Comment Number 2 (Fund Balances) and Comment Number 3 (Inventory Procedures).

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Howard County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect Howard County's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A reportable condition is described in the Comments Section of the report as Comment Number 1 (Segregation of Duties).

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, of the reportable conditions described above, we consider Comment Number 1 to be a material weakness. We also noted another matter involving internal control over financial reporting that we have reported to management of Howard County in the Comments Section of the report as Comment Number 4 (Balancing Procedures).

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County, the appropriate Federal and regulatory agencies, and citizens of the State of Nebraska and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

October 29, 2003

Deputy State Auditor

Dann Hauffrer CPA